



San Diego City Attorney **MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE**

NEWS RELEASE

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BATHHOUSE OPERATORS MUST SHUT DOWN AFTER SEXUAL ENCOUNTERS ARE DOCUMENTED 2200 CLUB SETTLES WITH THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

San Diego, CA: A Hillcrest bathhouse that was allegedly operating as an adult entertainment business for sexual encounters will be permanently shutdown as of April 30, 2007. The 2200 Club Inc., must also surrender its bathhouse permit to the County and is subject to a \$25,000 fine, which is suspended pending compliance. In the meantime the 2200 Club is prohibited from allowing any further acts of sexual activity to occur at the club.

According to Deputy City Attorney Bryan Ziegler, the Code Enforcement Unit in the City Attorney's Criminal Division filed the complaint under California's Red Light Abatement Act, which allows for civil injunctions and fines of up to \$25,000 per violation for any business, including bathhouses that as a primary activity encourage or permit sexual activity to occur on the premises. The defendants settled the complaint, admitting no liability. John Smith who is president of the corporation signed the settlement on its behalf.

The civil action was filed against the 2200 Club after citizen complaints and two police undercover operations documented sexual activity on the premises. In January 2005, the City Attorney's Office first issued a warning letter to the 2200 Club's attorney, stating that the bathhouse was "operating in violation of the City's Adult Entertainment regulations...as documented in the enclosed police report, people are meeting at the 2200 Club to have sex..."

A citizen complained the sexual activity had not ceased. Six months later, the first of two police undercover operations confirmed sex was occurring in both the common areas and the private rooms at the bathhouse.

The City Attorney's civil action also cites that the "nuisance contributes to the spread in the community and beyond of sexually transmitted diseases such as AIDS."

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